



**Subcommittee on National Security,  
Emerging Threats and International Relations**

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**\*\*MEDIA ADVISORY\*\***

For Immediate Release  
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**Congressman Christopher Shays to Hold September 15 Field Hearing on**

***“Combating Terrorism:  
Assessing Federal Assistance to First Responder Preparedness”***

(Washington, DC) -- Congressman Christopher Shays (CT-4), Chairman of the Subcommittee on National Security, Emerging Threats and International Relations, will convene an oversight **Field Hearing** on Monday, September 15, 2003 titled, “Combating Terrorism: Assessing Federal Assistance to First Responders.” The hearing will convene at 11:30 a.m. at the Holiday Inn Select, 700 Main Street, Stamford, Connecticut 06901.

The hearing will coincide with a tabletop exercise (TTX) simulating a terrorist incident in the city of Stamford. Intended to focus on the overall response and decision-making process, the exercise will emphasize the disruption of transportation infrastructure, mutual aid and will incorporate a multi-jurisdictional response.

The Stamford TTX is a multimedia-driven, facilitated tabletop exercise. The exercise will proceed in three distinct phases, or modules, representing significant periods in the response. Each module begins with a multimedia update that summarizes the key actions occurring within the time period. Following the updates, participants review the situation and engage in a group discussion of appropriate response issues. Participants then take part in a facilitated caucus discussion in which they will present their group’s actions based on the scenario and discuss their interactions with other agencies.

The hearing will convene during a break in the exercise (approximately 11:30 a.m.), and will invite witnesses from the local, state, and federal government to assess federal training programs for first responders and the need to develop standards for first responder capabilities. A second panel will be convened after

the conclusion of the exercise (approximately 2:30 p.m.), inviting TTX participants to discuss lessons learned and to give their views about the federal role in preparing first responders for a terrorist incident involving a weapon of mass destruction.

The TTX will be closed to the public and media, but the media will be briefed about the nature and scope of the exercise. Additionally, the media is invited to the hearing where TTX participants will testify about their experiences (Panel II).

## **Witness List**

### **Panel I (11:30 a.m.)**

**The Honorable Dannel P. Malloy**  
Mayor, City of Stamford

**Representative from Department of  
Homeland Security**

**Mr. Vincent J. De Rosa**  
Connecticut Department of Public Safety

**Mr. Christopher P. Bruhl**  
SACIA

### **Panel II (2:30 p.m.)**

**Participants from the TTX Exercise to Testify on Lessons Learned**

**[Schedule Attached]**

*Schedule*  
*Stamford Tabletop Exercise*  
*and*  
*Subcommittee on National Security, Emerging Threats, and International*  
*Relations Hearing*  
*September 15, 2003*  
*Holiday Inn Select, 700 Main Street*  
*Stamford, CT 06901*

8:30 am—9:00 am	Registration (Stamford Ballroom)
9:00 am—9:30 am	Welcome and Overview Exercise Background Exercise Overview
9:30 am—11:30 am	Exercise Play (Modules 1 and 2)
<b>*11:30 am—12:30 am</b>	<b><u>Congressional Hearing</u> (Davenport Ballroom)</b> <b><i>“Combating Terrorism: Assessing Federal Assistance to First Responders”</i></b>  <b>Witnesses:</b> The Honorable Dannel P. Malloy Mayor, City of Stamford  Representative from Department of Homeland Security  Mr. Vincent J. De Rosa Connecticut Department of Public Safety  <b>Mr. Christopher P. Bruhl</b> SACIA
12:30 pm—2:30 pm	Exercise Play (Module 3) and Exercise wrap-up
<b>*2:30 pm—4:00 pm</b>	<b>Congressional Hearing Reconvenes— Observers and Exercise Participants invited testify.</b>

**\*Congressional hearing open to public.**